

Stephen Cartwright's delightful illustrations complement the text and are designed to stimulate further interest. Fold-out pages add to the enjoyment.

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Usborne  
Phonics Readers  
Ted's shed



Supports  
synthetic  
phonics  
learning

Phil Roxbee Cox &amp; Stephen Cartwright

## What is synthetic phonics?

Phonics-based reading involves learning to recognize the distinct sounds, or phonemes, that go together to make up words. There are just over 40 phonemes in the English language. Some phonemes correspond to a single letter, like the t-e-d sounds in the name "Ted", and others to combinations of letters, such as the sh-ee-p sounds in the word "sheep".

Synthetic phonics is the process of reading by *sounding* the individual phonemes in a word, and then synthesizing – running them together – or *blending* them to read the whole word. Children who learn to read using synthetic phonics start by learning the individual phonemes, then soon learn to sound and blend in order to read whole words. This gives them the confidence to read unfamiliar words and tackle new texts, an important step towards independent reading.

Words can be divided into two basic groups: regular phonic words, such as "shed", which can be read by sounding and blending, and words which are wholly or partly irregular. Most words in English are regular, but some very common words, such as "the" and "was", are irregular and have to be learned. When your child meets an unfamiliar word, encourage him or her to read it regularly; children may recognize the irregularity and correct themselves, or you can guide them if necessary.

Read this story with your child, encouraging him or her to sound out the words as you go. Soon, most children will start to sound out the words for themselves. This is an excellent way of helping to develop a fundamental reading skill.

Dr. Marlynne Grant

# Usborne Phonics Readers Ted's shed

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There is a little yellow duck to find on every page.

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Meet Ted. Ted likes red.



Even Ted's shed is a red shed.

Today, Ted's bed goes into the shed.



"What are you doing, Ted?" asks Fred.

"Wait and see,"  
says Ted.



Up on his stool, Ted gets down his tools.

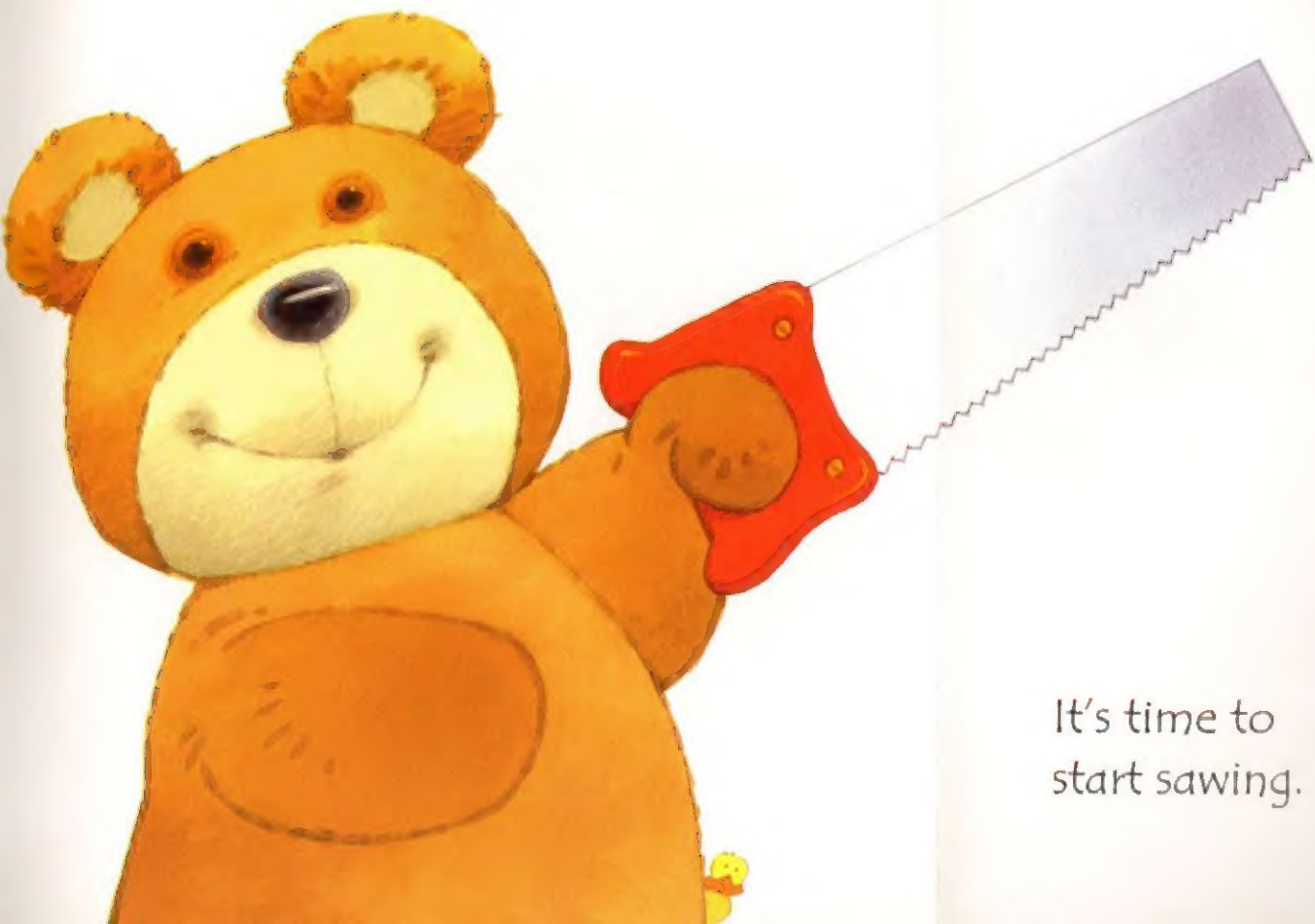


He puts in a paw,  
and pulls out  
a saw.



Ted looks at  
his drawing.





It's time to  
start sawing.

Ted saws into a big, round log.



"What are you up to?"  
asks Pup the dog.

"Wait and see," says Ted.



He saws off a big, round slice.  
"This wood is good. This slice is nice."





Now Ted saws off slice after slice.



Look who's watching – a pair of mice!



Next, Ted hunts for his jar of nails.



The jar  
is empty...



...apart from  
a snail.





Look, the mice  
have the nails in  
their tails!



Ted and his team work on in the sun.



They huff...

...and they puff...

...but it's lots of fun!

Fred and Pup ask, "What's this all about?"



"Just wait and see!" the others shout.

Did you spot Ted's  
clever plan?



His red shed  
is now a caravan!

